

Arlington Historical Commission  
Minutes for the Meeting of  
Tuesday, 6 October 2015  
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Commissioners Eric Stange, Patrick Guthrie, and Dianne Schaefer. Chairman, presiding, JoAnn Robinson
2. Review of minutes: Reviewed the minutes from July 7, 2015. Minutes are accepted with minor revisions.
3. Communications Received:
  - a. Andrea Nicolay, Director of Libraries in Arlington, [anicolay@minilib.net](mailto:anicolay@minilib.net). She would like to acquaint herself with the Arlington Historical Commission and would like to discuss a library matter. This matter is about the installation of a new bicycle rack.
  - b. Steve with Century 21 Adams in Arlington. Wants to represent the property correctly regarding 55 Falmouth Road.
  - c. Mark Hofner, a new homeowner in Arlington on Jason Street, introducing himself. [hofner@gmail.com](mailto:hofner@gmail.com) or 617-529-7288
  - d. Mr. Politano called regarding 59 Winter Street. The house is on the Inventory and I explained the process for a hearing. The family is interested in making some changes. This might involve a demolition of the property. At this time he is conferring with a lawyer as the executor for his mother about the plans. He will be in touch after he speaks with his mother, Maria Politano and the lawyer.
  - e. Demolition sign offs for the following properties were sent to the Building Department.
    1. 341 Forest Street- Not on the Inventory- sent July 24, 2015
    2. 26 Mott Street- Not on the Inventory- sent August 6, 2015
    3. 22 Mott Street- Not on the Inventory- sent August 6, 2015
    4. 67 George Street- Not on the Inventory- sent August 6, 2015
    5. 17 Maynard Street- Not on the Inventory- sent August 7, 2015
    6. 10 Field Road- Not on the Inventory- sent August 7, 2015
    7. 72 Thesda Street- Not on the Inventory- sent August 8, 2015
    8. 11 Kipling Road- Not on the Inventory- sent August 28, 2015
    9. 71 Dothan Road- Not on the Inventory- sent August 31, 2015
    10. 72 Henderson Street- Not on the Inventory- sent September 2, 2015
    11. 27 Winter Street- Not on the Inventory- sent September 2, 2015

4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
  - a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie, Schaefer)- New officers elected. John Worden served as President for 31 years. Patrick Guthrie is new President.
  - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)- No report.
  - c. Arlington Historic Districts Commission-JoAnn Robinson has attended recent meetings. A joint meeting of the Commissions will be in December.
5. Historical Commission FY 2016 Budget –
6. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
  - a. Whittemore Robbins House Cottage 6/13 Robinson - Nothing to report.
  - b. 41 Kensington Road 9/13 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
  - c. 246 Park Ave 12/13 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
  - d. 64 Park Street 5/14 Robinson- A notice is going to be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding activity at this address without approval.
  - e. 129 Lake Street 12/13 Schaefer- Remove from list as work is complete.
  - f. 1173 Massachusetts Avenue 11/14 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
  - g. 18 Robin Hood Road 3/15 Robinson- Nothing to report.
  - h. 38 Kensington Park 5/15 Stange-Nothing to report.
  - i. 163 Park Avenue 6/15 Guthrie-Nothing to report.
  - j. 1167 Massachusetts Avenue 8/15 Robinson- Nothing to report
  - k. 61 Brantwood Stange- The owner called about garage doors that imitate farm doors and Mr. Stange said it was a good idea and approved the direction.
7. Continuing Projects
  - a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings): Robinson – Nothing to report.
  - b. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – The Non-Profit Friends of the Robbins Town Hall Gardens has begun work. JoAnn Robinson is on the board. The group has removed dead trees and is raising money to maintain the gardens.
  - c. Education/Outreach: Robinson – Nothing to report.
  - d. Historic House Markers: 82 Wollaston Road requesting a sign. Ed Hodges should write about the history of the house with supporting sources to verify. We need to contact him regarding signage.
  - e. Town Hall: Nothing to report.
  - f. Web Site: Stange – Add process for obtaining a house marker to the website.

8. Discussion and Hearing:

8:00pm: Formal Hearing for 42 Henderson Street with John Magee, owner.

Plans presented:

- Front façade- bring window to same dimension as others to match with like trim. Paint yellow/white trim.
- Side facing Sawin Street- North side: change four windows to 2 over 2 to let in more light. Add a patio door 10 feet wide – Anderson 400 series with sliding door.
- Back Elevation- move door over replacing a window.
- Side Elevation right next to neighbors house. Add a dormer. Add a Velux fixed skylight at back of dormer.
- Keep the front door, front porch as is.

Discussion followed:

- Use the front façade as the model for your proportions.
- Advise against the large sliding patio door.
- Repeat symmetrical pattern. The current drawings do not show this.
- Come back with revised plans or work closely with the monitor and if there was a question regarding the revisions the owner might have to come back for a hearing.
- Look at house pattern books.
- Give approval for two facades and then continue the hearing after design changes are made on the North façade.

Motion by Mr. Guthrie: Façade, Henderson elevation approved as submitted. Kitchen, side elevation, applicant will proceed with double hung windows for opening proposed and respecting the proportion and alignment of extant windows. The rear elevation is approved as proposed and Commission has no issue with use of the bulkhead for basement access at location of current basement access. The Sawin Street elevation will be further refined in coordination with Arlington Historical Commission monitor to meet intent of creating a more historically appropriate result for the fenestration and openings followings intent of discussions in hearing. Monitor: Dianne Schaefer. Hearing ended at 9:00pm.

9. New Business- Appointment of AHC Representative to the Community Preservation Committee. A motion was made to nominate JoAnn Robinson as the Arlington Historical Commission representative by Mr. Stange. Mr. Guthrie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business continued: Houses were demolished on Henderson Street and Teel Street. A discussion followed regarding how to preserve the houses on these streets. We want to include the Arlington Historic District Commission in this issue. Propose the formation of a Historic istrict as they are relatively intact at this time. Research of the history of

every property would be necessary. Who would do this? Talk to neighbors. Create a warrant article.

The Arlington Historical Commission meeting adjourned at 9:39pm

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be November 3, 2015.

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.